Recalling that the Convention sets out the right of victims to know the truth regarding the circumstances of the enforced disappearance, the progress and results of the investigation and the fate of the disappeared person, and sets forth State party obligations to take appropriate measures in this regard,

Recalling also that the Convention defines the victim of enforced disappearance as the disappeared person and any individual who has suffered harm as the direct result of an enforced disappearance,

Acknowledging that the widespread and systematic practice of enforced disappearance is recognized in the Convention as a crime against humanity, as defined in applicable international law,

Stressing the importance of the work of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances,

Acknowledging the valuable work of the International Committee of the Red Cross in promoting compliance with international humanitarian law in this field,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[2] the ratification and the implementation of which will be a significant contribution to ending impunity and to promoting and protecting all human rights for all;

2. *Welcomes* the fact that 94 States have signed the Convention and 44 have ratified or acceded to it, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, as well as to consider the option provided for in articles 31 and 32 of the Convention regarding the Committee on Enforced Disappearances;

3. *Also welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to increase their intensive efforts to assist States in becoming parties to the Convention, including by supporting the actions of States to ratify the Convention, providing technical and capacity-building assistance to States and civil society and raising awareness about the Convention, with a view to achieving universal adherence;

5. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to continue making efforts to disseminate information on the Convention, to promote understanding of it and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under this instrument;

6. *Welcomes* the work achieved by the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, and encourages all States parties to the Convention to submit their reports, to support and promote the work of the Committee and to implement its recommendations;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance[4] as a body of principles for all States designed to punish enforced disappearances, to prevent their commission and to help victims of such acts and their families to seek fair, prompt and adequate reparation;

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[2] Resolution 61/177, annex.

[3] A/69/214.

[4] Resolution 47/133.

8. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the Working Group and the Committee, within the framework of their respective mandates, and encourages further cooperation in the future;

9. *Takes note with interest* of all the general comments of the Working Group, including the most recent comments on children[5] and women[6] affected by enforced disappearances, and recognizes in this regard that enforced disappearances have special consequences for women and vulnerable groups, especially children, as they most often bear the serious economic hardships that usually accompany such disappearances and, when subjected to enforced disappearances themselves, may become particularly vulnerable to sexual and other forms of violence;

10. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee and the Chair of the Working Group to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventieth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the status of the Convention and the implementation of the present resolution.

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18 December 2014

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[5] A/HRC/WGEID/98/1 and Corr.1.

[6] A/HRC/WGEID/98/2.